



2019 Annual Report





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Message from the Chief

This report is a synopsis of the various activities and duties performed by the Indianola Police Department. We strive to be engaged in our community, working with them in a partnership to provide a safe and secure environment where quality of life is expected.

IPD began the process of hiring additional officers based on a previous staffing study, but the Department operated with less than a full complement of officers throughout the entire year. Calls for service increased by 145 even though one officer was in field training for a portion of the year and another left the Department. Officers continue to be actively involved with IPD's community policing efforts which are now being coordinated by our new School Resource Officer, a position added to the Department at the beginning of the 2019 school year.

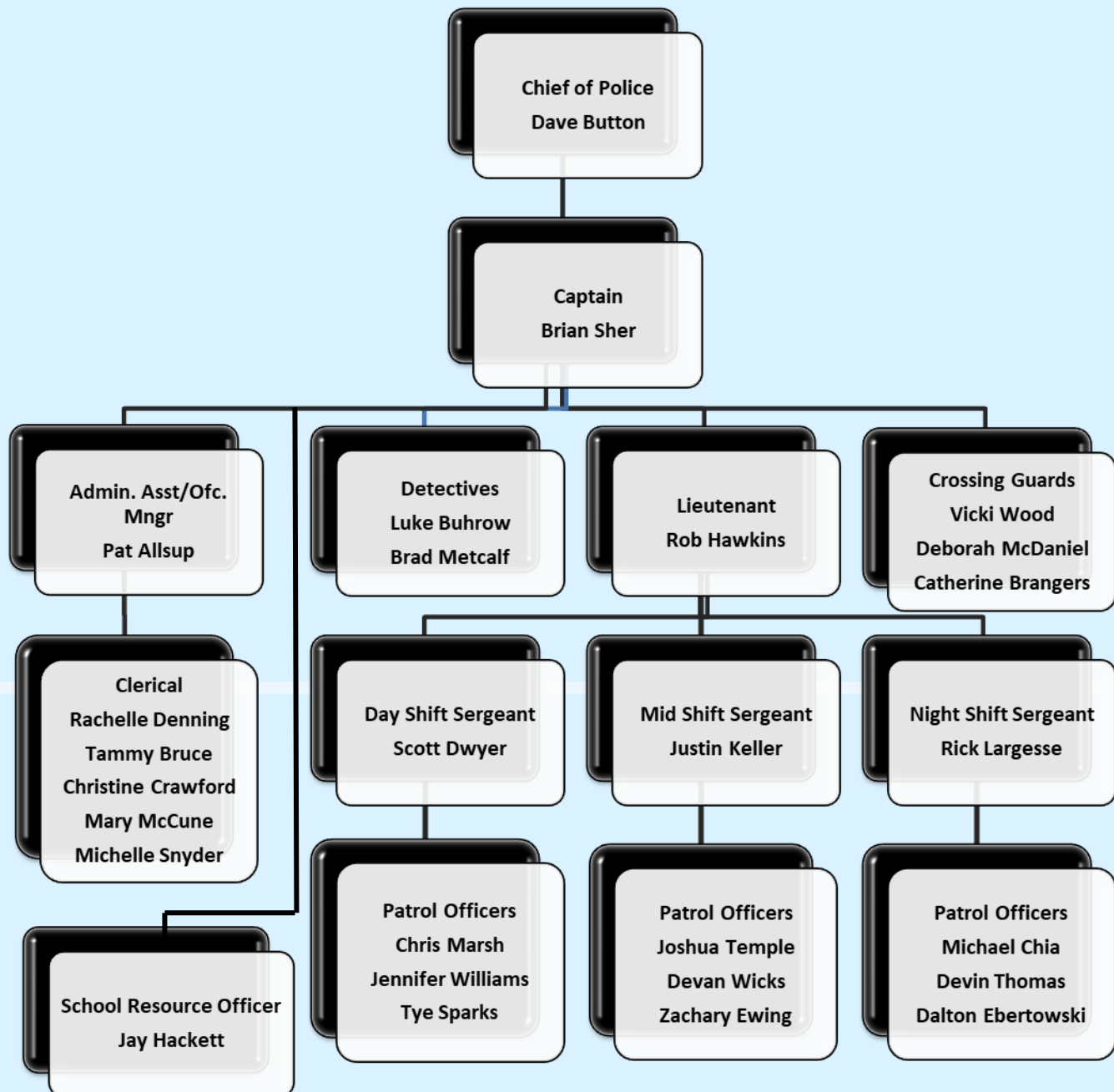
On behalf of the Indianola Police Department, we thank our community for the support we received in 2019. We will continue to keep the watch, protecting and serving our community with Integrity, Professionalism, and Dedication.

Dave Button
Chief of Police



Indianola Police Department Organizational Chart

2019



2019

Department Personnel



Chief Dave Button



Captain Brian Sher



Lt. Robert Hawkins



Admin. Asst. Pat Allsup



Sgt. Scott Dwyer



Sgt. Justin Keller



Sgt. Rick Largesse



Detective Luke Buhrow



Detective Brad Metcalf



SRO Jay Hackett



Officer Chris Marsh



Officer Jennifer Williams



Officer Joshua Temple



Officer Devan Wicks



Officer Michael Chia



Officer Zachary Ewing



Officer Devin Thomas



Officer Tye Sparks



Officer Dalton Ebertowski



Clerical Rachelle Denning



Clerical Tammy Bruce



Clerical Christine Crawford



Clerical Michelle Snyder



Clerical Mary McCune



Patrol Division

The Department's most visible division is the patrol division. The lieutenant oversees the operation of the patrol division. Each of the three patrol sergeants command one of three shifts manned by patrol officers. A minimum of two officers provide a law enforcement presence throughout the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The sergeants and patrol officers are assigned to one of three nine-hour shifts. Each shift overlaps which allows officers an opportunity to exchange information, keeps more officers on the street instead of ending and starting shifts simultaneously, and reduces overtime. The lieutenant works 1 pm – 10 pm Monday through Friday. This ensures that at least one supervisor is available to all three of the patrol shifts during the week, and gives the captain and chief an opportunity to brief the lieutenant on daily matters.

IPD was fortunate to receive funds from three entities in 2019 that assisted in our efforts to upgrade vital equipment. A grant from Country Financial was used to add baton flare traffic kits to the squads, an important piece of equipment for the safety of the officers. A Prairie Meadows grant allowed us to purchase a hardcase for an AED, purchase replacement mobile computer displays, and update our mobile driver license scanners and printers. A fundraiser by HyVee contributed funds for updated radar units.





Indianola's day shift patrol officers continue to stop into the elementary schools unannounced throughout the week. Officers walk through the buildings and converse with students and faculty as the opportunities arise. This effort places a marked patrol car in front of the schools at random times, serving as a deterrent to someone contemplating disrupting the school day. IPD partnered with the Indianola Community School District to provide a School Resource Officer. The SRO offices at the high school and splits their time between there and the middle school during normal school days. The SRO attends select school events, and when school is on break resumes patrol duties at IPD.

The Department's speed monitoring trailer is stationed throughout the city to remind drivers not to exceed the designated limit. Patrol officers are responsible for positioning the trailer each morning at a predetermined location and retrieving the trailer each evening.





Each officer's activity, either self-initiated or through being dispatched to a call, is a call for service. The patrol shift had 13,001 calls for service in 2019, an increase of 1.1% from 2018. Traffic enforcement in the form of citations and warnings decreased 21.7% from 2018 following an increase of 26% the previous year.

Patrol officers are often the first officers on scene at reported crimes, disturbances, and medical emergencies. Patrol officers assess each situation, identify involved parties, secure evidence if available, gather information, assess patients and render first aid, and make arrests as each situation dictates. They also handle complaints from citizens who either phone or walk in to the department wishing to speak with an officer. Most situations necessitate a written report that each patrol officer is responsible for completing. The cases that need further attention are either forwarded to the detective division or are followed up with by the patrol officer .





Detective Division

The two detectives assigned to the detective division are overseen by the Captain. Plans are in place to expand the division to three detectives in 2020 once the new additional officers are trained and on their own. Cases worked by the division decreased 29% in 2019 as some of the investigations were complicated time-consuming cases which slowed down the number of total cases that could be investigated. Each detective handled over 70 cases.

Detective duties include following up on cases generated by patrol officers, coordinating with prosecutors, warrant preparation and execution, and performing as the lead officers on major crimes including sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, financial crimes, and narcotics investigations. Detectives are trained and are responsible for crime scene processing, interview and interrogation, and death investigations. Detectives also consult with patrol officers regarding their investigations, and assist with preparation and execution of warrants on cases that are not assigned to the detective division. The detectives are also responsible for the control of evidence and the evidence room.

One detective is certified as a forensic examiner to investigate Internet Crimes against Children. This designation allows IPD to continue conducting ICAC cases as we have been for years with other ICAC certified personnel. IPD detectives utilize a Cellebrite device that allows them to conduct forensic exams on cellular phones. IPD detectives utilized the Cellebrite in 85 cases in 2019. Seventeen of those phone exams were related to ICAC investigations. IPD's detectives utilized the Cellebrite to perform cell phone examinations for several partner agencies including Norwalk PD, Carlisle PD, Sheriff's Offices in Warren, Madison, and Marion Counties, Osceola PD, the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Iowa Department of Public Safety.





School Resource Officer

An SRO was put in place commencing with the 2019 – 2020 school year. The SRO attended a 40-hour Basic SRO course prior to the beginning of the school year and will continue to be afforded training opportunities relevant to the position as those arise.

Although not a complete list, the SRO duties include:

- office at the high school and is primarily responsible for performing duties at the high school and middle school.
- being supervised by the IPD Captain.
- being evaluated at least annually by the Captain in consultation with ICSD personnel.
- being assigned those hours that the schools are in regular session and being on campus 30 minutes prior to school start time until 30 minutes after classes are dismissed for the day.
- maybe being reassigned temporarily by IPD during school breaks or during police emergencies.
- taking vacation time in excess of 5 consecutive days only when school is on break such as Summer, Winter, or Spring break. Vacation or comp time leave less than 5 consecutive days must have approval of IPD.
- being in summer or winter uniform unless approved by IPD for specific events.

The city and school finalized a 28E that spells out more of the duties and responsibilities of the position, as well as the funding split between governmental bodies. As this is a new position, we anticipate some fluidity and alteration in roles and expectations as the position evolves. The SRO and other IPD officers responded to a total of 318 calls for service at the respective schools during 2019.





Training

The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy has established mandatory training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the state. The Indianola Police Department far exceeds those requirements. As a Department, officers received 885 hours of training in 2019.

In 2019, Department officers either attended instruction or provided instruction in the following areas: firearms, Cellebrite certification, child exploitation, autism and law enforcement, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, Field Training, Expandable baton instructors course, mandatory reporter training, FBI LEEDA Command Leadership Institute (Sergeants), FBI LEEDA Executive Leadership Institute (Captain and Lieutenant), CPR / AED recertification, Open sight rifle instructor recertification, patrol rifle instruction, interview and Interrogation training. The list does not include optional firearms range days that officers attend, city mandated online safety training, or the vision/values training the Department's leadership team attended.





Statistics

Type of Call	2017	2018	2019	% Diff
Calls for Service	11321	12856	13001	1.1%
Incident Reports	1666	1857	1797	-3.2%
Traffic Enforcement	4434	4912	3993	-18.7%
Vehicle Accident Responses	371	401	426	5.9%
Arrests	583	601	675	12.3%
Controlled Substance Cases	133	163	179	9.8%
Assault	66	87	85	-2.3%
Burglary	286	363	283	-22%
Sex Abuse	24	34	36	5.9%
Theft	326	307	309	.7%
Domestic Disturbance	164	221	186	-15.8%
Criminal Mischief	115	141	124	-12.1%
Arson/Fire	3	1	0	-100%
Robbery	0	1	2	100%
Fraud/Forgery	126	148	140	-5.4%
<u>Traffic Enforcement</u>				
Citations/Warnings	3268	4137	3238	-21.7%
OWI	72	55	50	-9.1%
Parking Tickets	609	774	705	-8.9%
<u>Motor Vehicle Accidents</u>				
Property Damage	281	313	323	3.2%
Personal Injury	20	16	19	18.8%
Hit and Run	52	49	67	36.7%
Unknown Injury	5	8	6	-25%
Car vs. Deer	13	15	11	-26.7%
Fatality	0	0	0	0%
<u>Detective Cases</u>				
Detective Investigated	227	207	147	-29%
ICAC	11	15	16	6.7%



Community Involvement

The Department is actively involved in the community as we build on the trust we've built, and we strive to provide a safe environment for our citizens and visitors. We work to strengthen our current partnerships and look to build collaborative new partnerships with local groups and individuals.

The Department's visibility in the community is vital to our success. Officers are encouraged to get out of the squad cars and into various businesses, or to briefly stop by community events. On Beggar's Night, officers patrol the town handing out candy to young trick-or-treaters. We also set up a squad car at the library and won first place as favorite display in the City's Trunk-or-Treat event. IPD staffs display booths during the Warren County Fair and Warren County Health and Safety fair. Both events afford officers the opportunity to interact with visitors and community members.



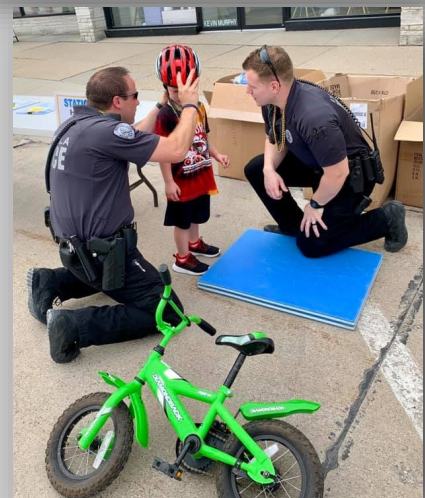
Communication between the Department and administration at Indianola schools and Simpson College continues to be positive. IPD continues a successful partnership with Simpson College to provide internship opportunities to criminal justice students. One Simpson's Criminal Justice professors has met multiple times with various members of IPD to discuss the CJ program and collaboration.



The annual week-long Junior Police Academy was held in the summer. The room full of Junior Officers were instructed by IPD Officers on topics such as patrol and detective duties, bullying, internet safety, drunk driving, defensive tactics, and polygraphs.



Officers have given talks to local service organizations and schools and read to elementary students at the schools. IPD participated in local charities by donating training in firearms and patrol officer duties for silent auctions. IPD donated to two local PTO's and provided the winning child a ride to school wearing an IPD uniform shirt. The Department's Facebook page and Twitter account continue to provide information to the community on public safety issues and Department activities. We helped at the Mayor's Bike Fest, provided an officer to speak to bank employees, and





The Department's ride along program continues to be successful. Citizens are allowed, after a background check and with supervisory approval, to spend up to four hours riding with the patrol officers in an observation role. Citizens are eligible to participate in the ride along program once every six months.

The drug drop box in our lobby receives a tremendous amount of use. Citizens place outdated and unwanted prescription medication in the box which is then safely destroyed without harm to the environment.

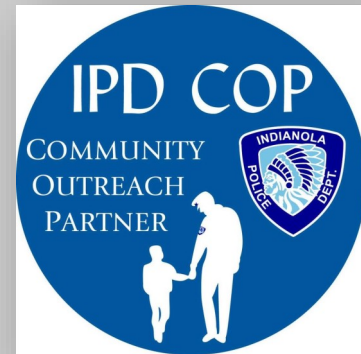
Two parking spots on the south side of the Department are designated for safe exchange zone parking. The parking stalls are monitored by surveillance video 24/7 and are to be used by people conducting on-line transactions such as eBay or other online purchases as well as by parents making child custody exchanges.

The Indianola Police Department Community Outreach Partners (IPD COP) is a non-profit program funded entirely by donations from businesses and individuals. IPD COP allowed officers to purchase and deliver twelve Thanksgiving dinners and twelve Hormel ham Christmas dinners to families in our community.





IPD COP partnered with Wal-Mart and officers took over a dozen children Christmas shopping. The kids purchased gifts for their families and themselves, had them wrapped by IPD staff and volunteers, and enjoyed treats. In the spring, officers prepared and served breakfast to community members and veterans at the American Legion.





Highlights

- ◆ Personnel changes:

Officer Brian Stern resigned (Des Moines PD)

Officer Dalton Ebertowski hired

Clerical staff Christine Crawford hired

- ◆ Allotment of officers increased from 20 to 22



